

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND CLAIMS

Call to Order: Chair Llew Jones, on February 9, 2017 at 1:55 P.M., in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Llew Jones, Chair (R)
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Duane Ankney (R)
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)
Sen. Terry Gauthier (R)
Sen. David Howard (R)
Sen. Douglas (Doug) Kary (R)
Sen. Bob Keenan (R)
Sen. Mary McNally (D)
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. Jon C. Sesso (D)
Sen. Cary Smith (R)
Sen. Jeffrey W. Welborn (R)
Sen. Cynthia Wolken (D)

Members Excused: None

Sen. Mike Lang (R)
Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R)
Sen. Lea Whitford (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary
Julie Johnson, Legislative Branch
Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 48, 2/6/2017; SB 73, 2/7/2017; HB 261, 2/6/2017

Executive Action: SB 48 Do Pass; SB 73 Do Pass

Committee Business:

00:00:35 Kris Wilkinson, Legislative Fiscal Division
00:01:06 Chairman Jones

HEARING ON SB 48

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:23 Sen. Chas Vincent (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SB 48, Direct DEQ to assume dredge-and-fill permitting program.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:02:36 Tim Davis, Department of Environmental Quality

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:02:49 Sen. Sesso
00:04:11 Sen. Vincent

Closing by Sponsor:

00:07:59 Sen. Vincent

HEARING ON SB 73

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:08:22 Sen. Pat Connell (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 73, Revise laws related to livestock loss.

[**EXHIBIT\(fcs29a01\)**](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:10:32 George Edwards, Livestock Loss Board (LLB)
00:11:43 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties
00:12:14 Jim Brown, Montana Wool Growers Association
00:13:02 Chelcie Cargill, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
00:14:26 Nick Gevock, Montana Wildlife Federation
00:15:01 Ben Lamb, National Wildlife Federation, and representing Defenders of Wildlife, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Rocky Mountain Stockgrowers Association
00:15:39 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association and Montana Cattlewomen
00:15:54 Ben Williamson, Natural Resource Defense Council
00:16:49 Levi Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union

00:17:28 Marc Cooke, Wolves of the Rockies

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a02\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:18:50 Sen. Phillips

00:19:08 Mr. Edwards, LLB

00:19:32 Sen. Phillips

00:19:42 Mr. Edwards

Closing by Sponsor:

00:20:07 Sen. Connell

HEARING ON HB 261

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:21:06 Rep. Frank Garner (R), HD 7, opened the hearing on HB 261, Extending termination date for statutory appropriation to public libraries.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:22:48 Jennie Stapp, State Library

00:25:14 John Finn, Lewis and Clark Library

00:26:40 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns

00:27:13 Shantil Siaperas, Montana Association of Counties

00:28:24 Mary Frieze, Lewistown Public Library

00:31:56 Nanette Gilbertson, Montana Library Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:33:26 Rep. Garner

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 48

00:34:40 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **SB 48 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Lang, Sen. Osmundson and Sen. Whitford were excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 73

00:35:17 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Moore moved that **SB 73 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Lang, Sen. Osmundson and Sen. Whitford were excused.

Committee Business:

00:35:41 Chairman Jones

00:35:58 Sen. Sesso

00:36:06 Chairman Jones

00:36:23 Sen. Sesso

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(fcs29a05\)](#)

00:37:19 Chairman Jones

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 2:33 PM

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

pg

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([fcs29aad.pdf](#))